

September 2, 2003

September Second

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The regular September Meeting of Danville City Council was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: Ruby B. Archie, P. A. "Pete" Castiglione, Jr., E. Stokes Daniels, Jr., Mayor John C. Hamlin, T. David Luther, Albert K. "Buddy" Rawley, Jr., Sherman M. Saunders, H. Phillip Smith, and Vice-Mayor R. Wayne Williams, Jr. (9).

Staff members present were City Manager Jerry L. Gwaltney, Deputy City Manager M. Lyle Lacy, III, Finance Director Aubrey D. Dodson, Assistant City Manager for Utilities Joseph C. King, City Attorney Timothy R. Spencer, Budget Director Cynthia L. Thomasson, Legislative and Public Affairs Director Todd M. Yeatts, and Clerk of the Council Annette Y. Crane, CMC.

Other Staff members present were Housing and Development Director Angela Boyte, Police Chief Philip Broadfoot, Community Development Director Jerry Fischer, Planning Director Kenny Gillie, Inspections Director Jerry Rigney, Human Resources Director Andrea Witt, and Emergency Services Director Doug Young.

Mayor Hamlin presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Saunders offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Hamlin recognized Woodrow Wilson Magnet School Principal Judy Williams. Mayor Hamlin advised that a year ago, Mrs. Williams accepted the challenge of bringing Woodrow Wilson to full accreditation. Mrs. Williams said the State had not yet released the scores and those she presented were preliminary. They were as follows:

<i>3rd Grade Three-Year Analysis Percent Passing Results</i>			
	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
English	12%	47.3%	84.20%
Math	75%	67.5%	80.49%
Science	39%	70.3%	92.5%
History	52%	32.4%	89.47%

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<p style="text-align: center;"><i>5th Grade Three-Year Analysis Percent Passing Rate</i></p>

	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
English	36%	39.2%	91.67%
Writing	41%	57.6%	N/A
Math	14%	30%	50%
Science	28%	28%	82.14%
History	17%	6.7%	66.67%

Mrs. Williams credited the staff and all employees for the success of the students. She thanked area businesses, parents and other volunteers who partnered with the school to assist the students with the learning process. Mrs. Williams advised that Governor Mark Warner would be at the school on Friday to make an announcement and extended an invitation to Council Members and the City administration to come by the school during the governor's visit.

Mayor Hamlin, Vice-Mayor Williams, and Council Members Archie, Castiglione and Saunders offered their congratulations and expressed extreme pride in the efforts of Mrs. Williams, the students, the faculty, parents, and employees of the school for the outstanding test scores.

Mrs. Williams received a standing ovation from Council Members and the City staff in recognition of the accomplishment.

MINUTES

Upon Motion by Council Member Archie and second by Council Member Rawley, Minutes of the August 19, 2003 Regular Council Meeting were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - FY 2003-04 - UDAG REPAYMENT & INTEREST INCOME

Upon Motion by Council Member Smith and second by Council Member Archie, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-09.01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2003-2004 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE CITY TO BE FINANCED THROUGH THE UDAG REPAYMENT AND INTEREST INCOME PROGRAM TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDS

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was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

BUDGET ADOPTION-FY 2003-04-COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS GRANT

Upon Motion by Council Member Smith and second by Council Member Daniels, Ordinance No. 2003-08.10 presented by its First Reading on August 19, 2003 amending the 2003-2004 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to provide for a Virginia Commission for the Arts Grant in the amount of \$5,000 and to provide for the local share in the amount of \$5,000 for a total grant of \$10,000 was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR VIRGINIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Council Member Archie moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-09.01

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING FOR VIRGINIA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Council Member Castiglione seconded the Motion.

Deputy City Manager Lacy explained the Virginia First Cities (VFC) Coalition had requested that the 15-member cities of the coalition urge the General Assembly to fully fund the actual cost of K-12 Standards of Quality and legislative guidelines for higher education funding in the next State Budget. The VFC felt these actions were essential if students at all levels of education were to meet goals that were set in order for Virginia's students to receive the educational quality they need and deserve. These goals include small classes, sufficient numbers of qualified teachers, competitive teacher salaries, modern and safe classrooms, and accountability and performance measurement at all levels of learning.

The Resolution was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

HEARING-SPECIAL EXCEPTION PERMIT-1030 MONUMENT STREET

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Mayor Hamlin opened the floor for a Public Hearing to consider a request for a Special Exception Permit to allow for construction of a building in a floodway district. Notice of the Public Hearing had been duly published in the Danville Register and Bee on August 19 and 26, 2003. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Council Member Castiglione moved the adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-09.02

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING IN A FLOODWAY DISTRICT LOCATED AT 1030 MONUMENT STREET.

The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Williams and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0

AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).

NAY: None (0).

AMEND PERSONNEL SYSTEM – POLICE DEPARTMENT POSITIONS

Vice-Mayor Williams moved the adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-09.03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERSONNEL SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, AS AMENDED, PROVIDING FOR THE CLASSIFICATION, COMPENSATION, AND EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS OF THE CITY.

Council Member Castiglione seconded the Motion.

Police Chief Broadfoot explained that the purpose of the amendment was to allow for the restructuring of Police Department personnel. He said the positions of Police Corporal, Police Sergeant, Major and Lieutenant Colonel were being added. Revised promotional procedures are also included in the amendment. The promotional procedure is recommended for revision to reflect the new organizational structure and direction of the department. Chief Broadfoot said the restructuring would take place utilizing current level staffing and funding. He said the process would also assist in the development of future leaders in the department.

City Manager Gwaltney commended the efforts of Chief Broadfoot, the command group of the Police Department, Human Resources Director Andrea Witt, City Attorney Spencer, Deputy City Manager Lacy and other staff who worked together in developing the procedures.

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The Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS GRANT

Council Member Smith moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-09.02

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, NATIONAL DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS OFFICE GRANT PROGRAM, TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR APPROPRIATE PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST RESPONDERS FOR EMERGENCY CALLS.

The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Williams and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2003-04-OFFICE OF JUSTICE GRANT

Upon Motion by Vice-Mayor Williams and second by Council Member Daniels, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-09.04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,496 FROM THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, NATIONAL DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS OFFICE GRANT PROGRAM, TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR APPROPRIATE PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST RESPONDERS FOR EMERGENCY CALLS

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

CONTINUUM OF CARE FUNDS – ASSIST HOMELESS

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Council Member Archie moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-09.03

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUUM OF CARE STEERING COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A CONTINUUM OF CARE PLAN AND THE DEVELOPMENT AND SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) FOR CONTINUUM OF CARE FUNDS TO ASSIST THE HOMELESS.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Castiglione and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0

AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).

NAY: None (0).

Council Member Daniels inquired if there was a homeless problem in Danville. Council Member Saunders said there definitely was such a problem. Mr. Saunders said some individuals went to the emergency room for care in order to have a place to sleep for the night.

City Manager Gwaltney said the continuum of care plan is necessary in order for the City to receive other HUD funds.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications from the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, and the City Clerk.

City Attorney Spencer offered remarks about Judge James Ingram. Judge Ingram passed away on August 28, 2003. Mr. Spencer said Judge Ingram was instrumental in bringing about the construction of the Courts and Jail Building on Patton Street. Through his cooperation and efforts, the City was able to save a great deal of construction costs. Judge Ingram put a lot of heart into the courthouse. He was a fine man, a fine jurist, a great friend and Mr. Spencer said he would miss Judge Ingram deeply.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Archie encouraged Council Members to be at Woodrow Wilson Magnet School on Friday for Governor Mark Warner's visit to the school. She felt the body needed to be a part of the governor's announcement.

Mrs. Archie expressed her appreciation to Vice-Mayor Williams for his peacekeeping efforts during the public forum relating to the proposed new zoning ordinance last week.

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Mrs. Archie advised that several citizens had contacted her regarding the rate of their cablevision bill. She said one citizen had suggested that a competitive company might drive down the cost of the bills.

Council Member Castiglione reported that some residents of the West Main Street area had inquired if the traffic count could be extended until Averett University students returned for classes. They felt there would be a more accurate count of traffic when the college is in full swing.

Council Member Castiglione expressed concern about the high cost of natural gas and encouraged citizens to start saving now. Mr. Castiglione suggested it would be helpful to make public announcements suggesting creative ways to ease the burden of winter fuel bills.

Mr. Castiglione extended words of sympathy to the family of Judge Ingram.

In response to Mrs. Archie's remarks about high cablevision bills, Council Member Daniels suggested that if enough customers would simply pull the plug on their TV sets for about six months, the action might bring the cablevision owners to their knees and in turn would do something about the high cost of cablevision service that area residents are experiencing.

Mayor Hamlin expressed sympathy to the family of Judge Ingram. He said the beautiful Courts and Jail Building would be an eternal reminder of Judge Ingram's contributions to the citizens of Danville and surrounding communities.

Council Member Luther requested that Council consider renaming the Courts and Jail Building to honor Judge Ingram. Mr. Luther said his intention was to bring the request to Council before Judge Ingram passed away. He said he was out of town at the time of Judge Ingram's death and was unable to do so. Mr. Luther said that Commonwealth's Attorney Bill Fuller and Attorney and former Mayor Ron Williams had also spoken in favor of such an honor. He said the local newspaper in an editorial had endorsed the renaming.

Mayor Hamlin agreed to meet with City Attorney Spencer to review the City Code's Memorial Commission policy.

Council Members Rawley, Saunders and Smith extended condolences to the family of Judge Ingram. Mr. Rawley said Judge Ingram was a great man and would be dearly missed.

Council Member Smith asked for an update on the status of the application for FEMA funds. Emergency Services Director Doug Young reported that half of the funds had been received and repairs are taking place presently on the Riverfront Trail. Other projects

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have been completed. Mr. Young said the remainder of the funds would be forthcoming when all of the invoices were in.

Mr. Smith recalled that Police Officer Todd Sparks had been seriously injured in a motorcycle accident recently and was still hospitalized. He requested that citizens pray for the family and for Todd's complete recovery from his injuries. Mr. Smith commended the entire Sparks family for being such a caring and community-minded family.

In response to Council Member Archie's comments, Vice-Mayor Williams said he felt that Council and the administration had done a good job in listening to the public relating to the new zoning ordinance. He said everyone had worked very hard at being fair and consistent in the development of the zoning plan. Dr. Williams thanked Planning Director Ken Gillie and staff for all their hard work and said it was now time to finalize the zoning process.

Dr. Williams remembered Judge Ingram as a fair and caring Judge and those attributes carried over into his personal life as well. He said everyone who knew him would miss Judge Ingram.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

MAYOR

CLERK